



# Air Force Research Laboratory|AFRL

*Science and Technology for Tomorrow's Air and Space Force*

## **Success Story**

### **MS. KATHY CATALANO NAMED WRIGHT-PATTERSON SENIOR-LEVEL SECURITY SPECIALIST OF THE YEAR**



Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio, named Ms. Kathy Catalano, of the Sensors Directorate's Security Office, as the base's Senior-level Security Specialist of the Year for her contributions in protecting the directorate's workforce and information.



Air Force Research Laboratory  
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### **Accomplishment**

Ms. Catalano transformed a “bare-bones” security office into a comprehensive and proactive program through her superb technical and managerial expertise. Her hard work resulted in the on-time occupancy of a new 63,000 square foot, multi-level security addition to the directorate’s research complex. She was also instrumental in upgrading the directorate’s force protection and operations security programs.

### **Background**

Ms. Catalano personally managed all of the security issues for the new \$12.2 million addition to the directorate’s main complex. She continuously reviewed secure facility regulations and requirements during all stages of installation and accreditation for the laboratories and offices which have multiple levels of security.

In response to the September 11th terrorist attacks, Ms. Catalano quickly integrated new directives and guidance, while rewriting new force protection procedures. She also recognized the need for better force protection for the directorate’s people and resources.

Using an operational risk management approach, she assembled a team to determine critical upgrades to enhance the security posture including improved lighting, video surveillance monitoring, alarms, protective fencing, and a new mail delivery procedure. One of her main accomplishments was the creation of the automated public release system.

This restructuring of the directorate’s operational security document public release process was in response to heightened concerns to protect United States technological superiority. Under her leadership, a team created, tested, and implemented a computer-automated process to support operational security peer reviews for all documents submitted for public release. The unit compliance inspection cited this process as a best practice.

### **Additional information**

To receive more information about this or other activities in the Air Force Research Laboratory, contact TECH CONNECT, AFRL/XPTC, (800) 203-6451 and you will be directed to the appropriate laboratory expert. (03-SN-02)

Sensors  
Awards and Recognition